



1 January 2009

To: The U.S. Army Southern European Task Force / U.S. Army Africa Team

Subject: Commander's Intent, 2009

2009 ushers in our first year as U.S. Army Africa - and it promises to be an exciting year! Although our fundamental Army Values remain unchanged, transformation has given us new responsibilities, mission and focus. Forging a new path as the Army Component for U.S. Africa Command will be challenging and rewarding - but our azimuth to the future is true.

Our Vision: SETAF will be America's premier Army team dedicated to achieving positive change in Africa.

Our transformation symbolizes America's enduring commitment to Africa. Yet the Army recognizes that SETAF's current structure and size are inadequate to attain this vision. So our headquarters will continue to evolve during 2009 in composition and structure. Regardless of size, we share a responsibility to create a world-class organization that is well-designed, expertly run and mission-focused. We must act now to lay the foundation for our future success.

Our Mission: SETAF, in concert with national and international partners, conducts sustained security engagement with African land forces to promote peace, stability, and security in Africa. As directed, deploys as a contingency headquarters in support of crisis response.

As we take on new responsibilities, I expect each of you to be guided by the following principles: *foster a favorable attitude towards the U.S. everywhere you go; be team players - go beyond cooperation to collaboration; add value to existing programs in Africa without disruption or confusion; exemplify professionalism in all your actions and promote the same in our African partners; maintain a strong relationship with our Italian ally and host - remember we are guests in their country; share your experiences and learn lessons.* Our missions in Africa will continue to be both complex and novel as situations change. But we will learn and adapt quickly so we can move forward boldly, not bureaucratically.

Our successful launch as U.S. Army Africa - a team like no other - is a direct result of your hard work. As we go forward, everyone must be at the top of their game because there is enormous opportunity in 2009, and we intend to seize it. The rewards are high: a chance to engage with our African partners to forestall crises, rather than merely respond. Together, we will make a positive difference - for our Nation, and for the people of Africa.

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Commanding